



SYNOPSIS

Senate Bills and Joint Resolutions
2014 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 29, 2014
Schedule 16

PLEASE NOTE: January 31 – Bill introduction deadline.
All bills should be given to the Secretary of the Senate's office by 5:00 P.M. on Monday, February 3.
As required by Senate Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the Senate Rules Committee.

SENATE BILLS INTRODUCED January 29, 2014

SB 504 Senator Kelley

HEALTH INSURANCE – ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS – PEDIATRIC DENTAL BENEFITS

Providing that a health benefit plan offered by a health insurance carrier outside the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to individuals or small employers is not required to include specified pediatric dental benefits under specified circumstances.

EMERGENCY BILL

IN, § 31-116(a) - amended and § 31-116(f) - added

Assigned to: Finance

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Baltimore Area: 410-946-5400 — Washington Area: 301-970-5400

Other Maryland Areas: 1-800-492-7122 — Maryland Relay Service: 1-800-735-2258

SB 505 Senator Kelley**TASK FORCE ON FAMILY CAREGIVING AND LONG-TERM SUPPORTS**

Establishing the Task Force on Family Caregiving and Long-Term Supports; providing for the composition of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to make recommendations for legislative and administrative action relating to family caregiving; requiring the Task Force to report specified recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a specified date; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

SB 506 Senator Feldman**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – POTOMAC COMMUNITY RESOURCES HOME**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Potomac Community Resources, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Potomac Community Resources Home, located in Montgomery County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 507 Senators Feldman and Astle**WORKERS' COMPENSATION – REIMBURSEMENT FOR REPACKAGED AND RELABELED DRUGS – FEE SCHEDULE AND REQUIREMENTS**

Requiring the Workers' Compensation Commission to adopt in regulation a pharmaceutical fee schedule applicable to repackaged and relabeled drugs; providing for the setting of reimbursement rates for specified drugs; requiring the Commission to impose a specified fine on an employer or its insurer under specified circumstances; requiring that a pharmaceutical bill submitted to an employer or its insurer for reimbursement of specified drugs contain specified information; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

LE, §§ 9-663 and 9-664 - amended and § 9-665 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 508 Senator Currie, et al**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL – ESTABLISHMENT OF A
CONSUMER AFFAIRS SATELLITE OFFICE IN PRINCE GEORGE’S
COUNTY**

Requiring the Office of the Attorney General to establish a consumer affairs satellite office located in Prince George’s County; providing for the purpose of establishing a consumer affairs satellite office; requiring the consumer affairs satellite office to provide consumers with specified resources; requiring the Office of the Attorney General to give specified consideration when determining the location of the consumer affairs satellite office; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

SB 509 Senators Currie and Peters**INCOME TAX CREDIT – RETURNING HEROES AND WOUNDED
WARRIORS**

Allowing a business entity to claim a credit against the State income tax for specified wages paid to specified qualified veterans; providing that the credit may not exceed a specified amount; providing for the carryforward of the credit; requiring the Comptroller to adopt specified regulations and provide a specified annual report; defining specified terms; providing for the application of the Act; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

TG, § 10-736 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 510 Senator Peters**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY –
BOWIE GYMNASIUM ROOF REPLACEMENT**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$130,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bowie for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Bowie Gymnasium, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 511 Senator Peters**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – DINOSAUR PARK IMPROVEMENTS**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$25,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Dinosaur Park, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 512 Senator Gladden**CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD – MEMBERSHIP – FAMILY MEMBER OF HOMICIDE VICTIM**

Altering the membership of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to include one person who is a family member of a homicide victim.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CP, § 11-804 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 513 Senator Gladden**TASK FORCE ON THE FISCAL IMPACT ASSOCIATED WITH ANIMAL CRUELTY CASES**

Establishing the Task Force on the Fiscal Impact associated with Animal Cruelty Cases; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to collect and review specified data and specified laws and make recommendations regarding specified matters; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 514 Senator Gladden**SPEECH–LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS – LICENSE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS – NATIONAL CERTIFICATION**

Requiring the State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers, and Speech–Language Pathologists to waive specified continuing education requirements for the purpose of renewing a license to practice speech–language pathology for a licensee who holds a license to practice speech–language pathology and a specified national certification that is determined to be in good standing by the issuing organization.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

HO, § 2-308 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 515 Senator Gladden, et al**JUVENILE LAW – TRANSFER OF CASES TO JUVENILE COURT**

Repealing a provision of law that prohibits a court exercising criminal jurisdiction in a case involving a child to transfer the case to the juvenile court under specified circumstances.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CP, §§ 4-202, 4-202.1, and 4-202.2 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 516 Senator Pinsky**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – HISTORIC GREENBELT THEATER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$200,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Greenbelt for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Historic Greenbelt Theater, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 517 Senator Pinsky**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – ART WORKS NOW PROJECT**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Art Works Studio School, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Art Works Now facility, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 518 Senator Pinsky**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – RIVERDALE WELCOME CENTER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$400,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the CASA de Maryland, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Riverdale Welcome Center, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 519 Senator Pinsky**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – UNIVERSITY PARK COMMUNITY BUILDING**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of University Park for specified development or improvement purposes related to the University Park Community Building, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 520 Senator Robey**VEHICLE LAWS – BICYCLES AND MOTOR SCOOTERS –
OPERATION ON ROADWAYS**

Creating an exception to the prohibition against a person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter on a roadway where the posted maximum speed limit exceeds 50 miles an hour; and authorizing a person who is lawfully operating a bicycle or a motor scooter on a shoulder adjacent to a roadway for which the posted maximum speed limit exceeds 50 miles an hour to enter the roadway only if making or attempting to make a left turn, crossing through an intersection, or the shoulder is overlaid with specified directional markings.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

TR, § 21-1205.1(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 521 Senator Pinsky, et al**AGRICULTURE – POULTRY LITTER – ENERGY-GENERATING
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM**

Establishing a Poultry Litter Energy-Generating Cooperative Program; prohibiting the rates and structure of the Program from being used for distributed generation from other sources of energy; requiring the State Department of Agriculture to consult with the Energy-Generating Cooperative Advisory Committee on the administration of the Program; providing for the credit structure for the energy generated from an energy-generating cooperative; providing for the allocation of unsubscribed energy; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

AG, §§ 10-2001 through 10-2009, PU, § 7-306.1, and SG, § 9-2009 - added

Assigned to: Finance and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 522 Senator Feldman**COMMERCIAL LAW – MARYLAND UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE
– FUNDS TRANSFERS**

Altering the applicability of provisions of the Maryland Uniform Commercial Code governing funds transfers; providing that the provisions apply to a specified remittance transfer except under specified circumstances; and establishing that, in the event of an inconsistency between an applicable provision of the Maryland Uniform Commercial Code governing funds transfers and an applicable provision of the federal Electronic Fund Transfer Act, the federal law governs to the extent of the inconsistency.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CL, § 4A-108 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 523 Senators Feldman and Glassman**TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROGRAM FOR INTEREST-FREE LOANS
TO STEM COLLEGE STUDENTS IN MARYLAND**

Establishing the Task Force to Study a Program for Interest-Free Loans to STEM College Students in Maryland; providing for the composition, cochair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding specified matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 524 Senator Peters**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY –
KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN HALL**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$60,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Trustees of the Knights of St. John Ascension Commandery 283, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Knights of St. John Hall, located in Prince George’s County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 525 Senators Shank and Benson**COMMISSION ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE –
DUTIES**

Authorizing the Commission on African American History and Culture to provide operational funding to a museum that specializes in African American history and culture.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

SG, § 9.5-407 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 526 Senator Middleton**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – CHARLES COUNTY – LIFESTYLES
HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$100,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Lifestyles of Maryland Foundation, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Lifestyles Homeless Services Center, located in Charles County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 527 Chair, Finance Committee**MARYLAND HORSE RACING ACT – SUNSET EXTENSION AND PROGRAM EVALUATION**

Extending to July 1, 2024, the date on which the Maryland Horse Racing Act terminates; and requiring that an evaluation be made of the State Racing Commission and specified advisory committees on or before December 15, 2021.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

BR, § 11-1102 and SG, 8-403(b)(34),(47),and (53) - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 528 Senator Middleton**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – CHARLES COUNTY – LIONS CAMP MERRICK**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$150,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Lions Camp Merrick, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the septic system at Lions Camp Merrick, located in Charles County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 529 Senator Middleton**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – CHARLES COUNTY – SOUTHERN MARYLAND CAROUSEL PROJECT**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Southern Maryland Carousel Group, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Southern Maryland Carousel, located in Charles County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 530 Senator Middleton**RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARD – THERMAL ENERGY**

Altering the renewable energy portfolio standard for specified years; providing for specified thermal energy sources to be either Tier 1 thermal energy sources or Tier 2 thermal energy sources; requiring an electricity supplier to meet the renewable energy portfolio standard by accumulating a specified amount of renewable energy credits and thermal renewable energy credits; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

PU, §§ 7-701, 7-703, 7-704, 7-705(a) and (b), and 7-708 - amended and § 7-705(g) - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 531 Senator Edwards**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – ALLEGANY COUNTY – FRIENDS AWARE FACILITY**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Friends Aware, Incorporated for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Friends Aware Facility, located in Allegany County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 532 Senator Edwards**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – GARRETT COUNTY – CHRISTIAN CROSSING THRIFT SHOP**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$190,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Garrett Cooperative Ministry, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Christian Crossing Thrift Shop, located in Garrett County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; prohibiting the use of the loan proceeds or matching fund for sectarian religious purposes; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 533 Senator Edwards**FORESTS AND PARKS – PUBLIC RECREATION ON PRIVATE AND STATE-OWNED LAND – OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES**

Expanding a specified liability exemption for a landowner who agrees to the use of a defined part of the landowner's property for cross-country skiing or snowmobiling in Garrett County to apply to the use of an off-highway vehicle in the State.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

NR, §§ 5-1101 and 5-1109 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 534 Senators Edwards and Hershey**EDUCATION – STATE GRANT TO COUNTIES WITH SMALL AND DECLINING STUDENT ENROLLMENT**

Establishing eligibility for a county board of education to receive a specified State grant; requiring a specified grant to be provided to eligible county boards in specified fiscal years; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; etc.

This bill requires a mandated appropriation in the annual budget bill.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

ED, § 5-202(i) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 535 Senator Edwards**NATURAL GAS SEVERANCE TAX AND IMPACT ACCOUNT**

Imposing a tax on the production of natural gas from specified wells in the State; setting the rate of the tax at 2.5% of the gross fair market value of natural gas produced at the wellhead; providing for the administration of the tax by the Comptroller; providing for the distribution of revenue from the tax; establishing the Natural Gas Impact Account as a special, nonlapsing fund in the Oil and Gas Fund; requiring the Department of the Environment to administer the Account; specifying the contents of the Account; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

TG, Various Sections - added and amended and EN, § 14-124.1 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 536 Senator Klausmeier**VEHICLE LAWS – MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION – ESTABLISHMENT**

Establishing the Motor Vehicle Commission in the Department of Transportation; transferring the authority of the Motor Vehicle Administration concerning dealer licenses, manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch licenses, and vehicle salesman licenses to the Commission; specifying the membership of the Commission; specifying the appointment of, qualifications of, restrictions imposed on, and term limits for members of the Commission; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

SF, § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)76. and 77. - amended and § 6-226(a)(2)(ii)78. - added and TR, Various Sections - amended, repealed, and added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 537 Senator Klausmeier**MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – RARE AND EXPENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – WAIVER AMENDMENT**

Requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an amendment to the Rare and Expensive Case Management Program under a specified waiver; and requiring the application to authorize enrollment in the Program for specified individuals under specified circumstances.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

HG, § 15-140 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 538 Senator Ramirez, et al**COURTS – JURY SERVICE – EXCUSAL**

Providing that an individual may be excused from jury service if the individual is a primary caregiver for a minor under the age of 6 years and unable to find child care for that minor, is a breast-feeding mother, or is a parent currently on paternity or maternity leave.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CJ, § 8-402 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 539 **Senator Ramirez, et al****TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE IMPLEMENTATION AND USE OF BODY CAMERAS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

Establishing the Task Force to Study the Implementation and Use of Body Cameras by Law Enforcement Officers; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the procurement and use of body cameras by law enforcement officers; requiring a report on or before December 1, 2014; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 540 **Senator Ramirez, et al****LAWYERS – FEES – PAYMENT BY CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD**

Requiring the Court of Appeals to allow an applicant to the Bar or a lawyer to use a credit or debit card to pay specified fees; and authorizing the Court of Appeals to charge a processing fee for each credit or debit card payment not exceeding the actual cost incurred in processing the credit or debit card payment.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

BOP, § 10-503 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 541 **Senator Muse****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – EXPERIENCE SALUBRIA PROJECT**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$80,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the African American Heritage Preservation Group, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Experience Salubria Project at the Potomac River Heritage Visitors Center; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 542 Senator Muse**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – ENTRANCE-LEVEL AND ANNUAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS (CHRISTOPHER’S LAW)**

Altering entrance-level and annual training conducted by the State and each county and municipal police training school and required by the Police Training Commission to include specified training consistent with specified provisions, including training in lifesaving techniques, the proper level of the use of force, sensitivity to cultural and gender diversity, and interaction with individuals with physical and intellectual and developmental disabilities.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

PS, § 3-207 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 543 Senator Muse**PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY – VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL PROCEEDS – LOCAL IMPACT GRANT DISTRIBUTION**

Specifying that 10% of the local impact grants provided to Prince George’s County from proceeds of video lottery terminals is to be distributed to the Town of Forest Heights as enacted by Chapter 1 of the Acts of the 2012 Second Special Session.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

SG, § 9-1A-31(a) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 544 Senator Muse**CIVIL ACTIONS – AWARD OF ATTORNEY’S FEES AND EXPENSES**

Authorizing a court to award a prevailing plaintiff reasonable attorney’s fees and expenses in specified civil actions; authorizing a court to award attorney’s fees to a prevailing defendant only under specified circumstances; establishing the method of calculating specified awards of attorney’s fees; establishing that the limit on the liability of the State under the Maryland Tort Claims Act does not include a specified award of attorney’s fees and expenses; providing that a specified plaintiff is considered a prevailing plaintiff; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CJ, §§ 3-1901 and 3-1902 - added and SG, §§ 12-104(a)(2) and 12-109 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 545 Senator Ramirez, et al**MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION – DRIVING RECORDS – EXPUNGEMENT**

Altering the circumstances under which the Motor Vehicle Administration is required to expunge the driving record or a probation before judgment of an individual; repealing a specified requirement that licensees apply for an expungement of specified driving records before the Administration may expunge them; prohibiting the Administration from expunging specified drug– and alcohol–related driving offenses and offenses relating to failing to remain at the scene of specified accidents; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

TR, § 16-117.1 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 546 Senator Reilly**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – REFILLABLE CONTAINERS – PERMITS AND LABELS**

Providing that the holders of specified alcoholic beverages manufacturing and retail licenses and refillable container permits may refill specified containers that are branded by a specified holder of a refillable container permit; renaming specified refillable container licenses to be refillable container permits; and making other clarifying and stylistic changes.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Art. 2B, Various Sections - amended and § 8-212(c)(5) - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 547 Senator Ferguson**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – BALTIMORE REGION – BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL AND ADVISORY BOARD AND BALTIMORE REGION TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

Clarifying the purpose of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council; altering the membership of the Council; altering the membership of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council Advisory Board; establishing the Baltimore Region Transportation Board; providing for the purpose and composition of the Transportation Board; specifying that all members of the Transportation Board are voting members; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

EC, §§ 13-302, 13-303, 13-307, and 13-309 - amended and § 13-310 - added

Assigned to: Finance

SB 548 Calvert County Senators**CALVERT COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – SPECIAL EVENT (FESTIVAL) BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR LICENSE**

Establishing in Calvert County a special event (festival) beer, wine and liquor (on-sale) license; specifying the type of license holder to which the Board of License Commissioners may issue the license, subject to specified limitations; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Art. 2B, § 8-205 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 549 Senators Mathias and Colburn**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – WICOMICO COUNTY – YMCA OF THE CHESAPEAKE**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the YMCA of the Chesapeake, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the YMCA of the Chesapeake, located in Wicomico County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 550 Senator Raskin**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – PYRAMID ATLANTIC ART CENTER SPACE AT THE SILVER SPRING LIBRARY**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center Space at the Silver Spring Library; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 551 Senator Raskin**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – BLACK BOX THEATER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$100,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Montgomery County for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Black Box Theater, located in Montgomery County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 552 Senator Glassman, et al**HARFORD COUNTY – LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES**

Authorizing the Liquor Control Board in Harford County to issue a 7-day Class D beer (on-sale) license to the holder of a Class 5 brewery license; authorizing the Board and the general manager to appoint additional inspectors for specified purposes; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Art. 2B, §§ 6-201(n)(6), 8-213.1(e), 10-103(b)(18), and 15-112(n) - amended and § 3-401(n) - repealed and added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 553 Senator Glassman**PROPERTY TAX – VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY – INTERNET DATABASE**

Repealing a requirement that the State Department of Assessments and Taxation maintain a database, available to the public on the Department's Web site, that relates to the valuation of specified real property in the State and includes specified information about each property; requiring the Department to maintain a database, available to the public on the Department's Web site, of assessment worksheets and cards that relate to the valuation of real property in the State; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

TP, § 14-201 - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 554 **Senator Ramirez, et al****MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST ACT**

Providing that when an individual becomes eligible for release from State or local custody, a law enforcement or any other government official may not continue to detain the individual on the basis of an immigration detainer; providing that a detainee may not be denied bail solely because of an immigration detainer; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CP, § 5-103 - added

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 555 **Carroll County Senators****CARROLL COUNTY – PUBLIC FACILITIES BONDS**

Authorizing and empowering the County Commissioners of Carroll County, from time to time, to borrow not more than \$20,000,000 in order to finance the construction, improvement, or development of specified public facilities in Carroll County and to effect such borrowing by issuance and sale at public or private sale of its general obligation bonds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 556 **Carroll County Senators****CARROLL COUNTY – ORPHANS' COURT JUDGES – SALARY**

Increasing to \$15,000 the salary of each judge of the Orphans' Court for Carroll County and to \$16,500 the annual salary of the Chief Judge of the Orphans' Court for Carroll County, to be paid in equal monthly installments; specifying that the Chief Judge shall be allowed \$200 annually for traveling expenses; and providing that the Act does not apply to the salary or compensation of a judge or the Chief Judge of the Orphans' Court for Carroll County while serving in a term of office beginning before October 1, 2014.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

ET, § 2-108(h) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 557 Carroll County Senators**CARROLL COUNTY – SHERIFF – SALARY**

Requiring that the Sheriff of Carroll County receive an annual salary of \$90,000 beginning on December 1, 2014, and thereafter; providing that the Act does not apply to the salary or compensation of the Sheriff of Carroll County while serving in a specified term of office; and providing that a specified limitation does not apply to a specified individual.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CJ, § 2-309(h)(1) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 558 Carroll County Senators**CARROLL COUNTY – LOCAL GOVERNMENT TORT CLAIMS ACT – INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Altering the definition of a “local government” under the Local Government Tort Claims Act to include the nonprofit corporation serving as the industrial development authority in Carroll County.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

CJ, § 5-301(d) - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 559 Carroll County Senators**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – CARROLL COUNTY – THE ARC OF CARROLL COUNTY BUILDING RENOVATION**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of The Arc of Carroll County, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of The Arc of Carroll County building; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 560 **Carroll County Senators****CARROLL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSE FEES**

Increasing the fees for specified beer, beer and light wine, and beer, wine and liquor licenses in Carroll County in a specified manner.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Art. 2B, §§ 3-101(h), 3-401(h), 5-101(h), 5-401(h), and 6-101(h) - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 561 **Carroll County Senators****CARROLL COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – REFILLABLE CONTAINER PERMIT**

Creating in Carroll County a refillable container permit; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners to issue the permit to a holder of a Class A license, a Class B license, or a Class D license; specifying that a holder of the permit may sell draft beer for consumption off the licensed premises in a specified refillable container; requiring a refillable container to meet specified requirements; requiring an applicant for the permit to complete a form and pay a fee; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Art. 2B, § 8-207 - added

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 562 **Senator Astle****MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – JUDGMENTS – THIRD-PARTY TORTFEASORS**

Requiring a specified judgment obtained in favor of a Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipient to be increased by a specified amount under specified circumstances; authorizing the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to collect from a Program recipient the full amount of specified payments in specified circumstances; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

HG, § 15-120 - amended

Assigned to: Finance

SB 563 **Senator Madaleno, et al****CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY –
STRATHMORE HALL ADDITION AND MANSION REPAIRS**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of \$3,500,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Strathmore Hall and Mansion, located in Montgomery County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 564 **Senator Simonaire****ENVIRONMENT – WATER POLLUTION CONTROL – PENALTY**

Increasing a specified penalty for specified violations of the water pollution control law from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for each violation and from \$50,000 to \$100,000 total.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

EN, § 9-342 - amended

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 565 **Senator Stone****CRIMINAL LAW – MOTOR VEHICLES – CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE
RESULTING IN DEATH**

Repealing a requirement that, to be convicted of a specified offense of manslaughter, a person's failure to perceive a specified risk must constitute a gross deviation from a specified standard of care; altering the name of a violation of the Act to be criminal negligence resulting in death; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CR, § 2-210 - amended and Chapter 334 of the Acts of 2011, § 2 - repealed

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 566 Senator Simonaire**CRIMINAL LAW – LITTERING – MANDATORY PUBLIC SERVICE**

Making performance of specified public service a mandatory rather than an optional penalty for the criminal offense of littering; requiring a person who unlawfully disposes of litter to be ordered to perform a specified number of hours of public service relating to the removal of the litter disposed of or the restoration of a specified polluted area; and making the number of hours of public service that is required correlate to the amount of litter unlawfully disposed of.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2014

CR, § 10-110 - amended

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

SB 567 Senator Simonaire**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY – CHESAPEAKE EDUCATIONAL CENTER**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the County Executive and County Council of Anne Arundel County for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Chesapeake Educational Center; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 568 Senator Simonaire**INCOME TAX CREDIT – FLOATING GARDEN EQUIPMENT**

Allowing an individual a credit against the State income tax for the purchase price of equipment used to install or maintain a floating garden; providing that the credit may not exceed a specified amount; providing that the credit may not be refundable or carried forward to another taxable year; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2013.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

TG, § 10-724.2 - added

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 569 Senator Shank**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – WASHINGTON COUNTY – DOEY’S HOUSE INITIATIVE**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$250,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Hospice of Washington County, Inc. for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Doey’s House hospice facility, located in Washington County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 570 Senator King, et al**INCOME TAX CREDIT – QUALIFIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSES – CREDIT AMOUNTS**

Increasing the total amount of research and development tax credits that the Department of Business and Economic Development may approve in a calendar year from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000; and applying the Act to tax credits certified after December 15, 2013.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

TG, § 10-721(c) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 571 Senator King, et al**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL STADIUM RENOVATION**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$22,500, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Education of Montgomery County for specified development or improvement purposes related to the Watkins Mill High School Stadium; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; establishing a deadline for the encumbrance or expenditure of the loan proceeds; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SB 572 **Senator King, et al****HOMESTEAD TAX CREDIT – ELIGIBILITY – DEFINITION OF LEGAL INTEREST**

Altering the definition of “legal interest” to include an interest in a dwelling as a settlor, grantor, or beneficiary of a trust under specified circumstances so as to include specified settlors, grantors, or beneficiaries of trusts as eligible to apply for the homestead property tax credit; and applying the Act retroactively to taxable years beginning after June 30, 2007.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2014

TP, § 9-105(a)(8) - amended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED January 29, 2014**SJ 4** **Senator Simonaire****CONOWINGO DAM – SEDIMENT – DREDGING**

Urging the United States Congress to authorize and fund a specified project to dredge behind the Conowingo Dam in order to preserve the dam’s capability to block pollutants in the Susquehanna River from reaching the Chesapeake Bay; and providing that a copy of the resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to specified individuals.

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs